

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9383

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4875

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: US-GREEK BASENEGOTIATIONS: TELECOMMUNICATIONS

REFS: (A) ATHENS 4045 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 123252

1. ALTHOUGH PARA 3D REF A REFLECTS AGREEMENT THAT MEETINGS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUBGROUP MIGHT OCCUR LATER THAN MID-JULY, BEST QUALIFIED GREEK PARTICIPANT, COL. SPYROU, HAF, IN CONVERSATION FOLLOWING JUNE 30 HELLENIKON SUBGROUP MEETING VOICED HIS EXPECTATION THAT MEETINGS WOULD BEGIN JULY 15. WE UNDERSTAND FROM WASHINGTON-BASED REPS ON OTHER SUBGROUPS THAT WORK ON US POSITION IS CONTINUING AND MAY NOT RPT NOT BE COMPLETED BY JULY 15.

2. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WE BELEIVE THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR TELECOM SUBGROUP TO MEET BEFORE AUGUST WHEN, AS DEPT. KNOWS, WE WILL BEGIN EFFECTIVE RECESS IN TALKSUNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER. FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL REASONS GOG WISHES TO BE IN POSITION TO SAY THAT ALL MAJOR SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AT SUBGROUP LEVEL BEFORE RECESS BEGINS, THIS ENABLES GOG TO FEND OFF PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESS QUESTIONS WITHOUT HAVING TO DEMONSTRATE CONCRETE RESULTS SINCE END OF ROUND II.

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3. ACCORDINGLY, WE URGE THAT WASHINGTON REPS BE PREPARED

TO PARTICIPATE IN TELECOM SUBGROUP DISCUSSIONS, PREFERABLY
WEEK OF JULY 14, OR ALTERNATIVELY WEEK OF JULY 21.
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